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BOROUGH OF NEWBURY  
RURAL DISTRICTS OF BRADFIELD, NEWBURY  
AND HUNGERFORD


ANNUAL  
REPORT

of

THE MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH  
(including the reports of the  
Public Health Inspectors)

for the year

1967



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## **TO THE CHAIRMAN AND MEMBERS OF THE SOUTH BERKS JOINT PUBLIC HEALTH COMMITTEE.**

Mr. Chairman, Ladies and Gentlemen,

I have the honour of presenting to you another Annual Report. It is the tenth which it has been my duty to prepare for your Committee.

The population of the whole area has once again increased during the past year, and again the lion's share of a total increase of just under 2,000 has gone to Bradfield Rural Area. Alone of the four districts, Newbury Borough has lost residents to other parts of the country. This is shown by its being the only district which has an excess of births over deaths greater in number than the total increase in the population of the Borough.

The figures on the page entitled vital statistics do not merit much comment. I would only warn against reading into them a significance which they do not have. The populations involved are so small that even small variations in numbers will make alterations in rates which are not of the statistical importance which would otherwise appear. To give a true figure much larger populations or figures over a much larger period of time would have to be used. Such figures would perhaps be more informative at the end of say a decade and should I be fortunate enough to be still preparing a report in 1970 perhaps I may be permitted to include such rates in the report for that year.

The table of causes of death although instructive does I feel conceal almost as much as it reveals. Perhaps these hidden facts cannot as yet be elucidated. The table lists the causes of death only by the final incident which ends life. But some of the fundamental issues are not explained. For example, how many of the deaths from heart disease in all its forms are basically related to the obesity which is one of the epidemic diseases of our era? Of the suicides — fortunately only two — what do we know of the original breakdown in their mental health — another 20th century epidemic — which led them to this irrevocable step ?

On the second of the queries I have no observations to make. The causes are complex, and without exaggeration beyond human comprehension at present. Time, patience and finance are all needed in great measure before the answers can be given.

When considering obesity one is faced again with a disease with many contributory factors. To some extent we have made a rod for our own backs. We have for years fostered an implicit if not explicit correlation between fatness and fitness. We have praised the chubby baby and have allowed, even if not encouraged competition between mothers at clinics in the matter of their



childrens' weight gain. Even our national prosperity — which I do not decry — enables us to have diets of high calorific value with excesses of sweets, biscuits and alcohol. Even now, with the emphasis on the true values of foodstuffs which is stressed by all engaged in health work, and with the emphasis on infant performance rather than infant appearance it is no uncommon experience to be asked to judge a baby show.

I have the gravest misgivings about such shows, not only because it is taken for granted that the fattest baby will win, but also because I do not think that any outsider should be asked to judge such a problem. Every child is — or should be — perfect to its parents and to cast doubts on the judgment of a mother is reprehensible in the extreme and may even be one of the minor factors in the problem of mental ill health which I have mentioned above.

Although it is always of interest to me to look back over the previous year and see some of the work as a whole rather than as a number of day to day incidents, this interest is always coloured by a degree of distress when I come to prepare the preamble to the largely self explanatory tables in the later pages of each report. One of the causes of this dismay is the difficulty of knowing with certainty how much of any particular aspect of the work is strictly within the terms of reference of each constituent part of your Committee.

Indeed this factor of uncertainty is even noticeable in some of the everyday duties. As a concrete example of this I would point out the frequent problem on which I have dilated in the past, that of dealing with the elderly who are beyond caring for themselves at home. If I visit such people and try to convince them that they can no longer cope on their own, then I am working as a County servant and must rely on the help and co-operation of the Area Welfare Officer, for whose assistance I can give no praise too high. But if this same old person is in the fortunately minute group who will not voluntarily leave home and for whom the provisions relating to compulsory removal must be invoked then I must don my district Medical Officer of Health guise.

In the vast majority of cases where such dehiscence exists there are no insuperable difficulties. The machinery may be rather cumbersome but the proof of the pudding is in the eating and generally the arrangements work. The very existence of the type of appointment which I am fortunate to hold, with both County and District responsibilities makes the necessary co-ordination easier. But I am not certain that some form of unit with responsibility for all local authority health services within its area would not, even if no more efficient, make relations with the public smoother.

At present I am frequently consulted on matters which are

not strictly within the legal jurisdiction of a district health department, largely through failure of the public to realise where the boundaries of responsibility lie. Often we are consulted as a last resort and as an unknown sage once remarked "the buck stops here". Under such circumstances one has a moral if not legal duty to at least channel the matter into the right hands but sometimes I fear, leaving the public with a feeling that one is merely trying to fob them off.

I realise that in querying the present structure of the health service I am not breaking any new ground. This problem is I know being already examined not solely from the local authority health services viewpoint, but from the whole National Health Service viewpoint and even from the viewpoint of the very existence of local authorities as they are constituted at the moment.

I would only reiterate the remark I have already made that generally the procedure works. For this fact I am indebted to the Committee, to my fellow officers and to the whole host of workers in both statutory and voluntary bodies without whose help and advice this report would appear as a very different volume.

I am, Mr. Chairman, Ladies and Gentlemen,

Your obedient Servant,

ROBERT HANDY,

Medical Officer of Health.

# **SOUTH BERKS JOINT PUBLIC HEALTH COMMITTEE**

**1967 — 1968**

## **LIST OF MEMBERS**

**Newbury Borough** ... MRS. G. N. T. RYOTT  
M. W. PAINE, ESQ., M.B.E.  
L. L. HALL, ESQ.

**Bradfield R.D.** ... A. H. WYATT, ESQ.  
A. W. MILLSON, ESQ.  
MRS. M. G. PILKINGTON

**Newbury R.D.** ... MRS. P. DAVIES  
P. J. WIGGINS, ESQ.  
G. H. PEARCE, ESQ.

**Hungerford R.D.** ... R. M. BALDWIN, ESQ.  
D. I. BRADY, ESQ.

**Berks County Council** ... A. ARBUTHNOTT, ESQ., M.B.E., E.D.  
MAJOR H. FAIRFAX HARVEY, M.B.E., M.C.  
HON. MRS. W. MACLAY

Clerk: L. SOUTHERN, ESQ., LL.B., Municipal Buildings, Newbury.  
(Telephone 4000)

# **BOROUGH OF NEWBURY, RURAL DISTRICTS OF BRADFELD, NEWBURY AND HUNGERFORD**

Medical Officer of Health:

R. HANDY, M.B., D.P.H.

Public Health Office, Greenham House, Newbury.

Telephone: Newbury 1144.

## **Newbury Borough**

... G. J. WICKENS, M.A.P.H.I.,

Chief Public Health Inspector,

16 Market Place, Newbury.

(Telephone 4000).

Certificate of the Royal Sanitary Institute and  
Sanitary Inspectors Board.

Certificate of the Royal Sanitary Institute as  
Inspector of Meat and other Foods.

K. H. JAMES, M.A.P.H.I.,

Additional Public Health Inspector.

Certificate of Royal Sanitary Institute and  
Sanitary Inspectors Joint Board as Sanitary  
Inspector.

Certificate of the Royal Sanitary Institute as  
Inspector of Meat and other Foods.

Certificate of Sanitary Science as applied to  
Building and Public Works.

J. HAYWARD, M.A.P.H.I., A.M.R.S.H.,

Additional Public Health Inspector.

Public Health Inspectors Diploma of the  
Public Health Inspectors Education Board.

Certificate of Royal Society of Health for the  
Inspection of Meat and Other Food.

Appointed 1.1.67.

## **Bradfield R.D.**

... ... G. ROSSER, M.A.P.H.I.,

Senior Public Health Inspector.

(Appointed 1.1.67).

26 Bath Road, Reading.

(Telephone 55581).

Certificate of the Public Health Inspectors'  
Education Board.

Certificate of the Royal Society of Health as  
Inspector of Meat and other Foods.

E. F. ALEXANDER, M.A.P.H.I.,

Certificate of the Public Health Inspectors'  
Examination Board.



**Newbury R.D.** ... .. C. J. COOKE, M.A.P.H.I.,  
Chief Public Health Inspector,  
Phoenix House, Bartholomew Street,  
Newbury. (Telephone 2400).  
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Sanitary Inspector.  
Certificate of the Royal Sanitary Institute as  
Inspector of Meat and other Foods.

S. BURGESS, M.A.P.H.I.,  
Additional Public Health Inspector.  
Certificate of the Royal Sanitary Institute and  
Sanitary Inspectors' Joint Board.

M. E. NORTHCOMBE, M.A.P.H.I., A.R.S.H.,  
Additional Public Health Inspector.  
Certificate of the Royal Sanitary Institute as  
Sanitary Inspector.  
Certificate of the Royal Sanitary Institute as  
Inspector of Meat and other Foods.  
(Resigned 29.9.67).

**Hungerford R.D.** ... .. J. E. EDWARDS, M.A.P.H.I., A.R.S.H.,  
Chief Public Health Inspector,  
The Priory, Hungerford. (Telephone 2726).  
Certificate of the Royal Sanitary Institute as  
Sanitary Inspector.

## GENERAL STATISTICS

District			Area in Acres (Land and Inland Water)	Estimated Population	Persons per Acre
Newbury Borough	...	...	2,612	21,980	8.4
Bradfield Rural	...	...	53,008	36,860	0.7
Newbury Rural	...	...	41,660	22,730	0.5
Hungerford Rural	...	...	44,817	10,430	0.2
Joint Districts	...	...	142,097	92,000	0.6

Area			Births	Deaths	Population Change (+ or -)	Births Minus Deaths
Newbury Borough	...	...	401	261	+ 20	140
Bradfield R.D.	...	...	779	286	+ 1,100	493
Newbury R.D.	...	...	409	217	+ 510	192
Hungerford R.D.	...	...	184	157	+ 120	27
Joint Districts	...	...	1,773	921	+ 1,750	852

# VITAL STATISTICS

## Births and Deaths

The following table shows the totals of births and deaths and the rates per thousand appropriate population. The corresponding figures for 1966 are in brackets.

District	Number of Live Births		Live Births Rate		Death Rate		Infant Deaths per 1,000 live Births	
Newbury Borough	401	(415)	18.6	(19.3)	9.7	(9.8)	22	(24.1)
Bradfield Rural	779	(838)	19.6	(21.3)	10.2	(9.6)	15	(13.1)
Newbury Rural	409	(426)	17.5	(18.8)	10.0	(10.8)	17	(21.1)
Hungerford Rural	184	(176)	19.2	(18.5)	11.9	(11.5)	—	(11.4)
Joint Districts	1773	(1855)	19.3	(20.6)	10.0	(10.2)	15.8	(17.2)

	Newbury Borough	Bradfield Rural	Newbury Rural	Hungerford Rural	Joint Districts
Illegitimate live births per cent. total live births	6.2 (7.7)	3.7 (5.3)	7.1 (9.4)	7.6 (6.8)	5.5 (6.9)

District	Still-births		Total live and still-births		Still birth rate		Neo-natal death rate	
Newbury Borough	4	(6)	405	(421)	10	(14.3)	19.9	(14.5)
Bradfield Rural	8	(5)	787	(843)	10	(5.9)	11.6	(8.4)
Newbury Rural	8	(12)	417	(438)	19	(27.4)	9.8	(14.1)
Hungerford Rural	2	(5)	186	(181)	11	(27.7)	—	( 0 )
Joint Districts	22	(28)	1795	(1883)	12.3	(14.9)	11.8	(10.2)

District	Early Neo-natal death rate				Peri-natal death rate	
Newbury Borough	...	...	17.5	(14.5)	27	(28.5)
Bradfield Rural	...	...	11.6	(7.2)	22	(13.1)
Newbury Rural	...	...	9.8	(14.1)	29	(41.1)
Hungerford Rural	...	...	—	( 0 )	11	(27.7)
Joint Districts	...	...	11.3	(9.7)	23.4	(24.4)

District	Total Infant Deaths	Deaths of Infants under 4 weeks of age		Legitimate Infant death rate	Illegitimate Infant death rate	
Newbury District	9 (10)	8	(6)	23.9 (20.9)	—	(62.5)
Bradfield Rural	12 (11)	9	(7)	9.3 (12.6)	—	(22.8)
Newbury Rural	7 (9)	4	(6)	18.4 (20.7)	—	(25.0)
Hungerford Rural	— (2)	—	(0)	— (12.2)	—	( 0 )
Joint Districts	28 (32)	21	(19)	16.7 (16.2)	—	(31.2)

# CAUSES OF DEATH

(Figures for 1966 are in brackets)

DEATHS:	Newbury Borough		Bradfield Rural		Newbury Rural		Hunger- ford Rural		Total (all areas)	
Tuberculosis, respiratory ... ..	—	(—)	—	(1)	—	(—)	—	(1)	—	(2)
Tuberculosis, other	—	(—)	—	(—)	—	(—)	—	(—)	—	(—)
Syphilitic disease ...	—	(—)	—	(—)	—	(2)	—	(—)	—	(2)
Diphtheria ... ..	—	(—)	—	(—)	—	(—)	—	(—)	—	(—)
Whooping Cough ...	—	(—)	—	(—)	—	(—)	—	(—)	—	(—)
Meningococcal infections ... ..	1	(—)	—	(—)	—	(—)	—	(—)	1	(—)
Acute Poliomyelitis	—	(—)	—	(—)	—	(—)	—	(—)	—	(—)
Measles ... ..	—	(1)	—	(—)	—	(—)	—	(—)	—	(1)
Other infective and parasitic diseases	4	(—)	—	(2)	—	(—)	—	(—)	4	(2)
Malignant neoplasm, stomach ... ..	5	(4)	9	(5)	3	(6)	3	(4)	20	(19)
Malignant neoplasm, lung, bronchus ...	9	(10)	13	(19)	11	(11)	4	(5)	37	(45)
Malignant neoplasm, breast ... ..	5	(6)	6	(3)	3	(8)	2	(1)	16	(18)
Malignant neoplasm, uterus ... ..	2	(2)	—	(2)	2	(1)	3	(—)	7	(5)
Other malignant and lymphatic neoplasms	27	(27)	25	(16)	23	(26)	15	(9)	90	(78)
Leukaemia, aleukaemia	1	(—)	—	(1)	1	(4)	—	(—)	2	(5)
Diabetes ... ..	1	(2)	3	(4)	5	(1)	2	(—)	11	(7)
Vascular lesions of ner- vous-system—stroke	52	(46)	49	(46)	29	(35)	24	(22)	154	(149)
Coronary disease, angina ... ..	46	(42)	60	(59)	34	(27)	28	(21)	168	(149)
Hypertension with heart disease ...	5	(6)	2	(2)	6	(3)	—	(2)	13	(13)
Other heart disease	25	(42)	16	(26)	36	(31)	21	(19)	98	(118)
Other circulatory disease ... ..	7	(10)	11	(12)	4	(10)	9	(16)	31	(48)
Influenza ... ..	—	(8)	—	(3)	—	(1)	—	(12)	—	(24)
Pneumonia ... ..	22	(18)	32	(13)	10	(19)	12	(17)	76	(67)
Bronchitis ... ..	9	(5)	7	(9)	8	(7)	5	(6)	29	(27)
Other disease of respiratory system	—	(2)	1	(3)	1	(—)	2	(—)	4	(5)
Ulcer of stomach and duodenum ... ..	2	(—)	3	(1)	1	(1)	2	(—)	8	(2)
Gastritis, enteritis and diarrhoea ... ..	—	(3)	3	(1)	—	(—)	1	(—)	4	(4)
Nephritis & Nephrosis	2	(1)	—	(—)	2	(—)	—	(—)	4	(1)
Hyperplasia of prostate	—	(—)	2	(1)	1	(2)	1	(—)	4	(3)
Pregnancy, childbirth, abortion ... ..	—	(—)	—	(2)	—	(—)	—	(—)	—	(2)
Congenital malformations ...	4	(4)	4	(3)	—	(3)	1	(1)	9	(11)
Other defined and ill- defined diseases ...	14	(16)	23	(30)	23	(18)	14	(5)	74	(69)
Motor vehicle accidents	7	(7)	8	(8)	9	(1)	—	(5)	24	(21)
All other accidents	10	(2)	6	(4)	4	(5)	8	(5)	28	(16)
Suicide ... ..	1	(1)	—	(1)	1	(1)	—	(1)	2	(4)
Homicide and operations of war	—	(—)	3	(—)	—	(—)	—	(—)	3	(—)
All causes ... ..	261	(265)	286	(277)	217	(223)	157	(152)	921	(917)



## PREVALENCE OF INFECTIOUS DISEASES

The following table gives the number of cases of infectious disease notified in each district during 1967.

Disease	Newbury Borough	Bradfield Rural	Hunger- ford Rural	Newbury Rural	Total All Areas
Smallpox ... ..	—	—	—	—	—
Diphtheria ... ..	—	—	—	—	—
Scarlet Fever ... ..	3	8	2	3	16
Erysipelas ... ..	—	1	2	—	3
Enteric Fever (including Paratyphoid) ... ..	—	—	—	—	—
Puerperal Pyrexia ... ..	—	1	—	—	1
Acute Poliomyelitis ... ..	—	—	—	—	—
Acute Polioencephalitis ... ..	—	—	—	—	—
Ophthalmia Neonatorum	—	—	—	—	—
Acute Encephalitis ... ..	—	—	—	—	—
Meningococcal Infection	—	—	—	—	—
Dysentery ... ..	—	14	1	—	15
Acute Primary Pneumonia	—	3	—	—	3
Measles ... ..	89	969	284	252	1594
Whooping Cough ... ..	4	23	—	8	35
Food Poisoning ... ..	—	7	—	—	7
Respiratory Tuberculosis	5	4	3	8	20
Other Forms of Tuberculosis ... ..	—	1	—	—	1
Anthrax ... ..	—	—	—	—	—
Malaria ... ..	—	—	—	—	—

## IMMUNISATION AND VACCINATION

These services are under the control of the County Health Department under Part III of the National Health Service Act, 1946.

Newbury Health Sub-Committee is responsible for diphtheria and whooping cough prophylaxis within the Borough of Newbury.

Immunisation is performed at Child Welfare Centres and by the general practitioners, who are also in the main responsible for smallpox vaccination.

Poliomyelitis vaccination is carried out by general practitioners and also at ad hoc clinics.

## DIPHTHERIA IMMUNISATION, 1967

**Number of Children Immunised against Diphtheria**  
(Figures for 1966 in brackets)

District	Under 1	Over 1 but Under 5	5—15	Total
<b>Newbury Borough:</b>				
Primary ... ..	239 (298)	93 (148)	18 (7)	350 (453)
Booster ... ..	— (99)	213 (318)	406 (333)	619 (750)
<b>Bradfield Rural:</b>				
Primary ... ..	576 (499)	394 (265)	49 (19)	1019 (783)
Booster ... ..	— (—)	829 (462)	937 (600)	1766 (1062)
<b>Newbury Rural:</b>				
Primary ... ..	257 (267)	116 (143)	16 (13)	389 (423)
Booster ... ..	— (—)	392 (344)	454 (307)	846 (651)
<b>Hungerford Rural:</b>				
Primary ... ..	91 (94)	43 (74)	— (4)	134 (172)
Booster ... ..	— (—)	120 (83)	207 (122)	327 (205)

**The following table shows the total number of Primary Diphtheria Immunisation carried out in the four areas during the last ten years.**

	1958	1959	1960	1961	1962	1963	1964	1965	1966	1967
<b>Newbury Borough:</b>										
Under 5 ...	270	277	282	341	328	283	447	373	446	332
5—15 ...	1	1	2	30	5	3	6	27	7	18
<b>Bradfield Rural:</b>										
Under 5 ...	383	435	303	423	462	503	660	703	764	970
5—15 ...	—	23	21	10	9	8	18	18	19	49
<b>Newbury Rural:</b>										
Under 5 ...	205	300	250	315	228	265	394	338	410	373
5—15 ...	—	—	—	5	2	2	4	4	13	16
<b>Hungerford Rural:</b>										
Under 5 ...	92	87	93	153	104	96	152	132	168	134
5—15 ...	—	—	—	2	3	2	7	—	4	—
Total ...	951	1123	951	1279	1141	1162	1688	1595	1831	1892

## SMALLPOX VACCINATION, 1967

(Figures for 1966 in brackets)

District	Under 1	Over 1 but Under 5	5—15	Total
<b>Newbury Borough:</b>				
Primary ... ..	7 (—)	271 (315)	14 (—)	292 (315)
Re-Vaccination	— (—)	10 (2)	111 (140)	121 (142)
<b>Bradfield Rural:</b>				
Primary ... ..	15 (14)	662 (551)	22 (—)	699 (565)
Re-Vaccination	— (—)	20 (3)	225 (176)	245 (179)
<b>Newbury Rural:</b>				
Primary ... ..	— (—)	351 (319)	6 (3)	357 (322)
Re-Vaccination	— (—)	16 (—)	112 (89)	128 (89)
<b>Hungerford Rural:</b>				
Primary ... ..	— (—)	134 (102)	6 (—)	140 (102)
Re-Vaccination	— (—)	— (—)	14 (32)	14 (32)
Total ... ..	22 (14)	1464 (1292)	510 (440)	1996 (1746)

**The following table shows the number of Children who during the past eight years were vaccinated when under one year of age.**

District	1960	1961	1962	1963	1964	1965	1966	1967
Newbury Borough ...	230	311	75	103	211	299	—	7
Bradfield Rural ...	303	353	236	359	308	444	14	15
Newbury Rural ...	291	236	84	106	216	280	—	—
Hungerford Rural ...	84	108	36	49	87	75	—	—
Total ... ..	908	1008	431	617	822	1098	14	22

**Number of Vaccinations carried out in infants under one year,  
compared with the annual number of births.**

Areas	Year	Live Births	Vaccinations	Percentage
Newbury Borough ...	1963	427	103	24.1
	1964	383	211	55.1
	1965	399	299	75.0
	1966	415	0	0
Bradfield R.D.C. ...	1963	747	359	48.1
	1964	713	308	43.2
	1965	841	444	52.8
	1966	838	14	1.7
Newbury R.D.C. ...	1963	433	106	24.5
	1964	444	216	48.7
	1965	427	280	65.6
	1966	426	0	0
Hungerford R.D.C. ...	1963	172	49	28.5
	1964	185	87	47.0
	1965	166	75	45.2
	1966	176	0	0
Joint District ... ..	1963	1779	617	34.7
	1964	1725	822	47.7
	1965	1833	1098	60.0
	1966	1855	14	0.7

No figures for 1967 are included in this table. It is now the almost universal practice to vaccinate against smallpox between the first and second birthdays. The small number nowadays vaccinated prior to the first birthday would make comparisons invalid and I propose to eliminate this table after this year.



## NEW CASES OF TUBERCULOSIS, 1967

Age Periods	Newbury Borough Non- Resp. Resp.		Bradfield Rural Non- Resp. Resp.		Newbury Rural Non- Resp. Resp.		Hungerford Rural Non- Resp. Resp.	
0 — 1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
1 — 5	—	—	—	—	3	—	—	—
5 — 10	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
10 — 15	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
15 — 20	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
20 — 25	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
25 — 35	—	—	2	1	3	—	—	—
35 — 45	2	—	2	—	—	—	1	—
45 — 55	2	—	—	—	2	—	—	—
55 — 65	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
65 & upwards	1	—	—	—	—	—	2	—
Totals	5	—	4	1	8	—	3	—

The following table shows the number of new cases of tuberculosis (respiratory and non-respiratory) which have occurred in the four areas during the last ten years.

Year	Pulmonary	Non-Pulmonary	Totals
1958	35	3	38
1959	25	3	28
1960	24	1	25
1961	30	2	32
1962	17	1	18
1963	26	1	27
1964	23	2	25
1965	24	9	33
1966	11	2	13
1967	20	1	21



NEWBURY BOROUGH

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ANNUAL REPORT

of the

Chief Public Health Inspector

for the year

1967

## **STAFF**

**Chief Public Health Inspector:**

**G. J. WICKENS, M.A.P.H.I.**

**Qualifications:**

Certificate of Royal Sanitary Institute and Sanitary Inspectors' Joint Board as Sanitary Inspector.

Certificate of Royal Sanitary Institute as Inspector of Meat and Other Food.

**Additional Public Health Inspector:**

**K. H. JAMES, M.A.P.H.I.**

**Qualifications:**

Certificate of Royal Sanitary Institute and Sanitary Inspectors' Joint Board as Sanitary Inspector.

Certificate of Royal Sanitary Institute as Inspector of Meat and Other Food.

Certificate of Sanitary Science as applied to Buildings and Public Works.

**Additional Public Health Inspector:**

**J. HAYWARD,**

**Qualifications:**

**M.A.P.H.I., A.M.R.S.H.**

Appointed 1.1.67.

Public Health Inspectors' Diploma of the Public Health Inspectors' Education Board.

Certificate of Royal Society of Health for the Inspection of Meat and Other Food.

**Shorthand-Typist:**

**Miss E. M. FERGUSON.**



# PUBLIC HEALTH INSPECTORS' DEPARTMENT

The commencement of an additional health inspector at the beginning of the year helped to ease the burden which had been considerable during the time the Department had been understaffed. Whilst it was not possible to make up all the ground lost during the period of staff shortage, the routine visits were again being regularly paid by the second half of the year and particular attention was able to be paid to the conditions at food premises.

The transformation of conditions since the cessation of Sunday work at the slaughterhouses has been considerable. The stopping of Sunday work has not reduced the throughput, in fact the throughput figures for April, May and June were the highest of any months recorded. Increased efficiency has resulted in the highest throughput and with this has also gone a considerable improvement in the conditions of hygiene being observed at the abattoir, and the one day a week when killing does not take place allows for a thorough cleaning of the premises to be undertaken.

## HOUSING

### HOUSES IN CLEARANCE AREAS AND UNFIT HOUSES ELSEWHERE.

Return for year 1967.

#### A1. HOUSES DEMOLISHED

In Clearance Areas	Houses Demolished	Displaced during year	
		Persons	Families
(Housing Act, 1957)			
(1) Houses unfit for human habitation ...	—	—	—
(2) Houses included by reason of bad arrangement, etc. ... ..	—	—	—
(3) Houses on land acquired under Section 43 (2), Housing Act, 1957	15	3	2
Not in Clearance Areas			
(4) As a result of formal or informal procedure under Section 17 (1), Housing Act, 1957 ... ..	20	14	7
(5) Local Authority owned houses certified unfit by the M.O.H. ...	—	—	—
(6) Houses unfit for human habitation where action has been taken under local Acts ... ..	—	—	—
(7) Unfit houses included in Unfitness Orders ... ..	—	—	—
A.2. Number of dwellings included above which were previously reported as closed ... ..	—	—	—

## B. UNFIT HOUSES CLOSED

(8)	Under Sections 16(4), 17(1), and 35(1), Housing Act, 1957 ... ..	12	16	9
(9)	Under Sections 17(3) and 26, Housing Act, 1957 ... ..	1	1	1
(10)	Parts of buildings closed under Section 18, Housing Act, 1957 ...	—	—	—

## C. UNFIT HOUSES MADE FIT AND HOUSES IN WHICH DEFECTS WERE REMEDIED

	By Owner	By Local Authority
(11) After informal action by local authority ... ..	24	
(12) After formal notice under		
(a) Public Health Acts ... ..	6	—
(b) Sections 9 and 16, Housing Act, 1957 ... ..	—	—
(13) Under Section 24, Housing Act, 1957	—	

## D. UNFIT HOUSES IN TEMPORARY USE (Housing Act 1957)

	Number of Houses (1)	Number of separate dwellings contained in column (1) (2)
(14) Retained for temporary accommodation		
(a) Under Section 48 ... ..	—	—
(b) Under Section 17(2) ... ..	—	—
(c) Under Section 46 ... ..	—	—
(15) Licensed for temporary occupation under Sections 34 or 35 ... ..	—	

## E. PURCHASE OF HOUSES BY AGREEMENT

	Number of Houses (1)	Number of occupants of houses in column (1) (2)
(16) Houses in Clearance Areas other than those included in confirmed Clearance Orders or Compulsory Purchase Orders purchased in the year 1967 ... ..	—	—

## HOUSING ACTS, 1957 — 1964

Good progress has been made during the year in the survey of the older roads in the town to ascertain which houses are still without amenities. By the end of the year very few roads were left to be surveyed, and it is anticipated by early 1968 a true picture of the houses lacking amenities in the town will be available.

Several informal actions have been taken to obtain bathrooms for tenants where they have specifically requested these amenities. It does seem, however, a reluctance on the part of the older householders to show any desire for improvements to their dwellings.

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## FOOD SUPPLIES

### Milk and Dairies:

Routine sampling of milk took place as shown below, no exception can be taken to results obtained. The bulk of the supplies, heat treated at the main dairy in the town, is sold outside the Borough.

### Bacteriological examination of milk:

Samples procured		Type of Milk	Total samples taken	Satisfactory	Unsatisfactory	Remarks
1. Methylene Blue Test	...	T.T.	23	21	2	—
	...	Past.	29	29	—	—
2. Phosphatase Test	...	Past.	29	29	—	—
3. Turbidity Test	...	Sterilized	6	6	—	—
	...	U.H.T.	5	5	—	—

Thirteen series of bottles taken from the washer at the only pasteurising plant in the district were submitted to examination and the Bacteriologist's report showed that they were satisfactory.

### Manufacture, storage and sale of ice-cream:

Sixty-four samples of ice-cream were examined and were placed in the following grades:—

Grade I	...	...	...	52
Grade II	...	...	...	6
Grade III	...	...	...	3
Grade IV	...	...	...	1
Void	...	...	...	2

The follow-up sample of the Grade IV produced satisfactory results and no real reason could be pin-pointed for the Grade IV condition which was reported.

**Classification of Food Premises within the jurisdiction of the  
Food Hygiene Regulations, 1960**

Butchers	...	...	...	...	...	20
General Stores	...	...	...	...	...	9
Hotels and other Licensed Premises	...	...	...	...	...	44
Cooked Meats	...	...	...	...	...	1
Grocers	...	...	...	...	...	47
Confectioners	...	...	...	...	...	18
Bakers	...	...	...	...	...	9
Catering	...	...	...	...	...	19
Greengrocers	...	...	...	...	...	10
Fishmongers	...	...	...	...	...	3
Dairies	...	...	...	...	...	2
Supermarkets	...	...	...	...	...	7
Ice-cream Manufacturers	...	...	...	...	...	1
						<hr/> 190 <hr/>

**Food Hygiene (Markets, Stalls and Delivery Vehicles) Regulations, 1966**

These regulations which came into operation at the beginning of the year have not been fully implemented as considerable discussions have been necessary in connection with the general market.

The question of removal to another site and also the re-arrangement of the market has been fully considered and after meetings with the traders the outcome was that the market should be left on the present site, and that facilities for washing equipment, food-stuffs and personal washing should be provided in the Corn Exchange.

The enquiries which were undertaken at other authorities in connection with the arrangements of the market revealed one or two interesting facts; the most important from a general interest point of view being that no two markets follow a similar pattern as regards the type of stall, and whereas Newbury with about 50 stalls has 15 fruit and vegetable stalls, Hitchin with something like over 200 stalls had 6 fruit and vegetable stalls.

**Inspection of Meat and other Foodstuffs in Shops, etc.:**

**WEIGHTS OF CANNED AND OTHER FOODS CONDEMNED  
AS UNFIT FOR HUMAN CONSUMPTION.**

Canned meat	...	...	...	...	2 cwt.	104 lbs.
Fish	...	...	...	...		42 lbs.
Canned food other than meat	...	...	...	...	1 cwt.	4 lbs.
Other food	...	...	...	...		61 lbs.
Total weight condemned	...	...	...	...	4 cwt.	99 lbs.



**Meat Inspection:**

**WEIGHTS OF CONDEMNED MEAT AND OFFAL**

Classification					Tons	cwts.	lbs.
(1)	At slaughterhouse	...	...	...	39	7	62
(2)	On retailers' premises:—						
	(a) Home killed	...	...	...	—	8	103
	(b) Imported	...	...	...	—	—	—
(3)	Total Weight	...	...	...	39	16	53

The throughput of the Board Abattoir during 1967 was a record and the heavy killing in April, May and June soon made up the ground lost during the three weeks in March when the premises were closed for extensive repairs. As noted at the beginning of this report regular Sunday slaughtering ceased at the end of February, 1967.

		Cattle excluding Cows		Calves	Sheep and Lambs		Pigs	Totals
Number slaughtered	...	3,924	1,053	313	6,656	42,642	54,588	
Number inspected	...	3,924	1,053	313	6,656	42,642	54,588	

**All diseases except**

**Tuberculosis and Cysticerci**

Whole carcasses condemned	4	9	12	42	105	172
Carcasses of which some part or organ was condemned	1,378	448	17	1,379	7,485	10,707
Percentage of the number inspected affected with diseases other than Tuber- culosis ... ..	35.2	43.4	9.2	21.3	17.8	—

**Tuberculosis only**

Whole carcasses condemned	—	—	—	—	2	2	
Carcasses of which some part or organ was condemned	—	—	—	—	307	307	
Percentage of the number inspected affected with Tuberculosis	...	...	—	—	0.7	—	

**Cysticercosis**

Carcasses of which some part or organ was condemned	5	5	—	—	—	10	
Carcasses submitted to treat- ment by refrigeration	...	5	5	—	—	10	
Generalised and totally con- demned	...	...	...	—	—	—	

# **FACTORIES, WORKPLACES, SHOPS, ETC.**

**Factories Acts, 1937 and 1948.**

## **Part I of the Act.**

1.-INSPECTIONS for purposes of provisions as to health (including inspections made by Public Health Inspectors).

Premises (1)	Number on Register (2)	Number of Inspections (3)	Number of Written Notices (4)	Occupiers Prosecuted (5)
(i) Factories in which Sections 1, 2, 3, 4 and 6 are to be enforced by Local Authorities ... ..	62	43	—	—
(ii) Factories not included in (i) in which Section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority ... ..	156	164	—	—
(iii) Other premises in which Section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority excluding outworkers' premises) ... ..	3	5	—	—
<b>TOTAL</b> ...	221	212	—	—

## 2.—CASES IN WHICH DEFECTS WERE FOUND

Particulars (1)	Found (2)	Number of cases in which defects were found Remedied (3)	Notified To H.M. Inspector (4)	By H.M. Inspector (5)	Number of cases in which prosecutions were instituted (6)
Want of cleanliness (S.1.)	4	3	—	—	Nil
Overcrowding (S.2.)	—	—	—	—	Nil
Unreasonable temperature (S.3.)	—	—	—	—	Nil
Inadequate ventilation (S.4.)	—	—	—	—	Nil
Ineffective drainage of floors (S.6.)	—	—	—	—	Nil
Sanitary Conveniences (S.7):					
(a) Insufficient	—	—	—	—	Nil
(b) Unsuitable or defective	3	3	—	1	Nil
(c) Not separate for sexes	—	—	—	—	Nil
Other offences against the Acts (not including offences relating to Out-work	—	—	—	—	Nil
<b>TOTAL</b> ...	7	6	—	1	Nil

## PEST INFESTATION CONTROL AND DISINFECTION

### Rodent Control:

The number of agricultural, horticultural and business properties which were under contract to the Joint Rodent Control Committee at the end of 1967 were:—

Newbury Borough	...	...	6
Newbury Rural District	...	...	38
Hungerford Rural District	...	...	39
A total of 83.			

Test baiting was carried out in the sewers within the Borough and the satisfactory position of 100% "no takes" was obtained. The size of the infestations during the year were on a notably smaller scale than in the past few years.

### Wasps' Nests:

During 1967 wasps' nests on domestic and business premises were destroyed by the rodent operators during the year as follows:—

Newbury Borough	...	...	32
Newbury Rural District	...	...	25
Hungerford Rural District	...	...	25

### Prevention of Damage by Pests Act, 1949.

#### Return of work by Rodent Operators.

	TYPE OF PROPERTY				Total
	Local Authority	Dwelling houses	Agri-cultural	All other (including Business & Industrial)	
1. Total number of properties in Local Authority's district ... ..	22	7,209	16	1,663	8,910
2. Number of properties inspected by Local Authority during 1967 as a result of,					
(a) Notification, or ... ..	(a) 13	249	1	37	300
(b) otherwise ... ..	(b) 15	25	3	3	46
3. Number of properties (under 2) found to be infested by rats ... ..	Major — Minor 25	— — 258	— — 4	— — 30	— — 317
4. Number of properties (under 2) found to be seriously infested by mice	3	16	—	10	29
5. Number of infested properties (under 3 and 4) treated by the Local Authority ... ..	28	274	4	40	346
6. Number of notices served under Section 4:					
(1) Treatment ... ..	—	—	—	—	—
(2) Structural works (i.e. Proofing)	—	—	—	—	—
Total ... ..	—	—	—	—	—
7. Number of cases in which default action was taken by Local Authority following issue of notice under Section 4 ... ..	—	—	—	—	—
8. Legal Proceedings ... ..	—	—	—	—	—
9. Number of "block" control schemes carried out = 7.					



## OFFICES, SHOPS AND RAILWAY PREMISES ACT, 1963

Work under this heading included in the main routine inspections of premises and little exception can be taken to the conditions found at the majority of premises.

The obligation of occupiers of premises to register when taking over premises is not fully realised and most of the new registrations are subsequent to an initial visit by an inspector from the Department.

**TABLE A — Registrations and General Inspections**

Class of Premises (1)	No. of premises registered during the year (2)	Total No. of registered premises at end of year (3)	No. of registered premises receiving a general inspection during the year (4)
Offices ... ..	9	126	53
Retail Shops ... ..	14	228	118
Wholesale shops, warehouses ... ..	1	9	4
Catering establishments open to the public, canteens ... ..	1	30	30
Fuel storage depots ... ..	—	4	3
<b>TOTALS</b> ... ..	<b>25</b>	<b>397</b>	<b>208</b>

**TABLE B — Number of visits of all kinds by Inspectors  
to Registered Premises**  
450

**TABLE C — Analysis of persons employed in  
Registered Premises by Workplace**

Class of Workplace (1)	Number of persons employed (2)
Offices ... ..	1,233
Retail Shops ... ..	1,551
Wholesale departments, warehouses ... ..	123
Catering establishments open to public ... ..	224
Canteens ... ..	14
Fuel storage depots ... ..	20
<b>TOTAL</b> ... ..	<b>3,165</b>
Total males ... ..	1,218
females ... ..	1,947

**TABLE D — Exemptions**

Class of Premises	Space (Sec. 5(2))	Temperature (Sec. 6)	Sanitary Conveniences (Sec. 9)	Washing Facilities (Sec. 10)
Offices ... ..	—	—	1	—
Retail shops ... ..	—	—	—	—
Wholesale shops, warehouses ... ..	—	—	—	—
Catering establishments open to the public, canteens ... ..	—	—	—	—
Fuel storage depots ... ..	—	—	—	—

**TABLE E — Prosecutions**

Prosecutions instituted of which the hearing was completed in the year	Nil
No. of complaints (or summary applications) made under Section 22	Nil
No. of interim orders granted ... ..	Nil

# BRADFIELD RURAL DISTRICT

## Report of Chief Public Health Inspector

### WATER SUPPLIES

#### Mains Water Supply:

Most parishes in the district, with the exception of Sulham and Englefield, continued to be supplied with an adequate quantity of mains water, which is drawn from the following boreholes:—

Area Supplied	Bores
Theale, Padworth and area North of Bath Road.	Woods Farm (Streatley). Bradfield. Pangbourne.
Area South of Bath Road.	Mortimer. Grazeley. Ufton Nervet.

All mains supplies were chlorinated before distribution. Bacteriological and chemical samples were taken regularly from sources, reservoirs and the distribution system by the Thames Valley Water Board and there were no instances of unusual contamination during the year.

Some difficulties were experienced at 'dead ends' of the distribution system, due to the anaerobic nature of the water obtained from the Grazeley source, but steps have been taken by the Water Board to overcome this.

At the Board's new Works at Ufton Nervet, an aerator has been included as part of the treatment plant.

No samples of raw water have been taken by this Department, but routine samples of mains water were taken on final distribution and each was reported as being of high bacteriological quality.

The natural fluoride content of the sources varies from less than 0.1 parts per million at the Woods Farm, Bradfield & Pangbourne Bores to 1.0—1.4 parts per million at the Mortimer, Grazeley and Ufton Nervet Bores.

The following table shows the estimated position in respect of main and other water supplies to houses throughout the district:—

Parish	Area in Acres	Houses	Estimated Population 31.12.67	Houses connected to mains water	Est. Pop.	Houses not on mains water
Aldermaston	3,438	503	2,259	488	2,192	15
Ashampstead	2,082	131	390	131	390	Nil
Basildon	3,139	410	1,247	401	1,220	9
Beech Hill	1,136	92	331	91	327	1
Beenham	2,068	252	814	235	759	17
Bradfield	4,359	429	1,475	412	1,416	17
Bucklebury	6,030	773	2,336	666	2,013	107
Burghfield	4,310	990	3,264	938	3,093	52
Englefield	1,437	65	224	5	17	60
Frilsham	1,078	106	365	104	358	2
Grazeley	519	8	25	7	22	1



Parish	Area in Acres	Houses	Estimated Population 31.12.67	Houses connected to mains water Houses	Est. Pop.	Houses not on mains water
Padworth	1,184	156	458	124	364	32
Pangbourne	1,940	826	2,599	790	2,486	36
Purley	1,159	722	1,996	711	1,966	11
Stanford Dingley	965	48	258	36	193	12
Stratfield Mortimer	3,031	977	3,258	965	3,218	12
Streatley	3,655	316	1,012	301	964	15
Sulham	723	35	97	3	8	32
Sulhamstead	1,993	504	1,608	467	1,490	37
Sulhamsted Bannister	556	30	118	30	118	Nil
Theale	1,619	791	2,485	766	2,406	25
Tidmarsh	785	94	295	72	226	22
Tilehurst	1,548	2,591	8,780	2,590	8,777	1
Ufton Nervet	2,189	74	214	63	182	11
Wokefield	665	29	100	29	100	Nil
Yattendon	1,400	94	285	85	258	9
<b>TOTALS</b>	<b>53,008</b>	<b>11,046</b>	<b>36,293</b>	<b>10,510</b>	<b>34,563</b>	<b>536</b>

A small number of dwellings are still supplied by standpipes but accurate figures are not available.

**The following New Mains were laid in the District during 1967**

Location	Yards
Willow Green Estate, Pangbourne	865
Adjacent — Garden House, Purley, Phase I	208
School Lane, Lower Burghfield	100
Adjacent River Cottage, Bucklebury Village	174
Beenham	40
Adjacent Garden House, Purley, Phase II	104
Palmers Lane, Burghfield Common	178
Peterhill Nurseries, Long Lane, Purley	480
The Thatch, Long Lane, Tilehurst	278
Langley Lodge, Calcot	118
Leighfield, Mortimer	275
Home Farm, Purley	336
Lamerton Estate, Purley	809

**PRIVATE WATER SUPPLIES:**

A total of one hundred and five samples of well water were taken for bacteriological examination during the year.

Sixty samples were taken from twenty-three individual private supplies and of these, twelve supplies proved satisfactory.

Eleven wells tested gave unsatisfactory results and the owners of the properties concerned were advised to fit filtration or chlorinating units to their supplies, where a mains water supply was not available. Two properties have been connected to the mains water supply and the wells are now disused.

Forty-five samples of water were taken from four Estate Supplies, of which thirty-eight samples proved satisfactory.

Remedial action was taken in respect of three Estate Supplies from which unsatisfactory samples had been obtained.

Subsequent samples taken after cleansing operations had been carried out proved satisfactory.

## SEWAGE DISPOSAL

A. Details of progress on the various schemes is as follows:—

Scheme	Properties Served	Remarks
<b>Englefield Village</b> New sewer.	96	Work in progress. Anticipated will be completed in February, 1968.
<b>Beech Hill</b> New sewer.	91	Scheme approved by Ministry at end of year. Anticipated that work will be carried out during 1968.
<b>Tilehurst, Halls Road</b> Extension to sewer and new pumping station.	14 existing 71 proposed	Negotiations proceeding for acquisition of land for pumping station. Anticipated that work will be carried out during 1968.
<b>Stratfield Mortimer (Summerlug)</b> Extension to sewer.	20 existing 8 proposed	Work to start on this scheme February, 1968.
<b>Lower Padworth/ Aldermaston Wharf</b> New sewer and treatment works.	112	Investigation of scheme by Inspector of Housing and L.G. postponed in November following breakdown of negotiations for the purchase of land required for treatment works. Alternative sites now to be investigated.
<b>Bucklebury, Hillfoot</b> New sewer and small treatment plant.	8	Scheme in course of preparation. Anticipated that work will be carried out during 1968.
<b>Lower Padworth</b> Surface water drainage scheme.		Scheme in course of preparation.
<b>Purley</b> Surface water drainage schemes.		Schemes submitted to Ministry for approval in principle. It is proposed to include these schemes in the Capital Works Programme for 1968/69.
<b>Tilehurst, Overdown Road</b> Relief sewer and drainage of Littleheath Road area.		It is proposed to include these schemes in the Capital Works Programme for 1968/69.

B. The following schemes will be considered for inclusion in the Capital Works Programme for 1968/69.

* <b>Upper Basildon</b>	New sewer.
* <b>Stanford Dingley/Tutts Clump</b>	New sewer and pumping stations.
* <b>Frilsham</b>	New sewer and enlargement of existing treatment works.
<b>Theale</b>	Alterations and extensions to sewage treatment works.
<b>Sulhamstead (Hollybush Lane)</b>	Extension of sewer.

\* Main drainage is **urgently** needed in these parishes, the existing individual drainage arrangements being most unsatisfactory.

C. The following list shows the areas in the District where the present drainage arrangements are unsatisfactory and main drainage is needed. The list is not necessarily in order of priority, this being under review.

Parish	Area	Approx. No. of Dwellings	Remarks
Aldermaston	Red Lane, Reading Road, Pinelands Caravan Site and possibly properties adjoining the Congregational Chapel situated in Hampshire	26 42 caravans 20 (Hants.)	No complaints from Reading Road. Difficulties at Caravan Site.
	Wantage Road	60	Septic Tank irrigation difficul- ties. Could be pumped to exist- ing sewers.
Burghfield	Cunning Man area	42 including Pingewood Road beyond Kennet Cottages.	
	Pingewood	17	
Bucklebury	Trash Green area	12 + 4 (Bennets Lane)	
	Longrove	17	Could be connected to sewer via McManus Estate.
	The Alley	34	Possible arrangements with Newbury R.D.C.
	The Slade	28	Clay subsoil. Stream polluted. Small gardens. Would require separate system.
	Cold Ash Road, The Ridge	41	Possible arrangement with Newbury R.D.C.
	Turners Green	18	
	The Village	23	Would require separate system.

Parish	Area	Approx. No. of Dwellings	Remarks
Tidmarsh and Sulham	Villages	110	High water table. No mains water supply in Sulham. Drainage would probably involve increasing the capacity of the existing sewer in Pangbourne from St. James Church to the ejector station near Whitechurch Bridge.
Purley	Oxford Road	30	Open development. Large gar-dens. Could either be pumped to Purley sewer or Borough sewer.
Theale	Wigmore Lane	22	High water table.
Yattendon	Southern part of Village	20	
Theale	Mill Lane, Calcot	12	Clay subsoil. Could be pumped or gravitated to Calcot sewer.



## CARAVANS

### Permanent Sites:—

Garstons Park (Caravans) Ltd., Tilehurst	222 Caravans
Frank Panter (Sites) Ltd., Ravenswing Caravan Site, Aldermaston	150 Caravans
Pinelands Caravan Site, Aldermaston	42 Caravans
Burghfield Rectory Rev. Nicholson	11 Caravans
Railway Inn, Station Road, Theale Mr. C. G. Wilsher	8 Caravans
Pangbourne Working Men's Club	5 Caravans
Old Mill Farm, Beenham Mr. F. C. Arlott	6 Caravans
Glebe Meadow, Theale Rev. E. L. King	5 Caravans
Colyton Way, Purley Park River Estate Mrs. W. M. Burrige	3 Caravans
River Gardens, Purley Park River Estate Mr. S. Brown	2 Caravans
Beenham Grange Isotope Developments Ltd.	2 Caravans

There were 50 temporary site licences in force during the year, the majority of sites having one caravan only stationed on the site.

Other caravans in the district were covered by the exemption clauses contained in the Caravan Sites and Control of Development Act, 1960, and included caravans used as a supplement to sleeping accommodation from a dwelling, those used by casual labour in farming and forestry operations or those used in conjunction with building or engineering operations.

### Proposed Council Caravan Site, Purley.

At the beginning of the year Ministry consent was given for the development of part of the proposed Local Authority Caravan Site at Purley.

Work commenced on the construction of 14 hardstandings, each with individual water closets, water points and store sheds, and by December this development was nearing completion.

It is anticipated that the 14 plots will be ready for occupation during January 1968.

The situation regarding the development of the site as a whole, which will accommodate 86 caravans when completed, remains the same as in the past three years.

With the continued restriction on Local Government expenditure, no further work has been carried out since the original filling and levelling of the site took place in 1964.

With the ever increasing demand for sites within the district it is to be hoped that the Purley Site can soon be fully developed in order that these needs may be satisfied.

### Travellers' Site, Mortimer.

In general, the Travellers' Site continued to operate satisfactorily during the year. It was, however, disappointing to find that the communal ablution blocks were again subjected to considerable misuse and further damage was caused to the fittings.

An increase in the site rents of 5/- per week was levied to pay for



repairs, but some difficulty was experienced in the collection of this additional charge and damage to the ablution blocks continued. The possibility of the closure of these blocks and the provision of individual washing facilities is now being considered. Each standing is already provided with its own water closet and it has been found, both on this site and on similar sites of this type that where individual facilities are provided they are kept in a very clean condition and are well maintained. Provision of these individual facilities would appear to be the only solution to the problems arising with the communal ablution blocks.

The sorting and breaking up of scrap presented a problem in the earlier part of the year. This was not being confined to the scrap compound provided and was being carried out haphazardly around the site. Warnings were issued that unless this was restricted to the scrap compound it would be closed down and all such activities on the site would have to cease. This warning was not heeded and the compound entrance was consequently boarded up. It has since then been possible to restrict such trading being carried on at the site though the fencing of this compound is gradually being broken and it may well be expedient to remove this entirely whilst there is still something of value left.

In the light of the Government's views on the need for sites of this nature, the possibility of an extension of the estimated life of the site from 10 to 20 years is under review. To this end, discussions are to be arranged with the owner of the land and the Berkshire County Council.

During the year a number of itinerants again camped on the Commons and roadside verges within the district. Although we have been fortunate in having fewer such people than in the previous year, much time has still been spent both in effecting their removal and in the inevitable cleaning up of the sites which they have occupied. It may well be that proposals which are to come before Parliament regarding the establishment of transit and other sites throughout the country for such people will ease the situation, but only if such legislation ensures that action is taken by all Local Authorities simultaneously. If this does not happen, apart from the undue financial burden placed on those Authorities which are first to provide such sites, there is certain to be an influx of itinerants to the areas in search of places, as was found to be the case when this Council's Travellers' Site was established.

## **REFUSE COLLECTION AND DISPOSAL**

### **Collection.**

The 'inside gate' collection of bins, introduced throughout the district in 1966, continued to be operated during the year. For those premises without front gardens, a kerbside collection of bins was made.

Farms and isolated properties unable to be reached by the refuse vehicles were supplied with quantities of paper sacks and collections were made at suitable points as and when necessary.

Paper sacks were again issued to all premises where collection days fell on Bank Holidays or over the Christmas period.

In addition to the normal weekly collections of refuse, special collections were made in respect of unwanted household effects, etc., on request. 565 special collections were made during the year.

### **Disposal.**

11,075 tons of refuse was collected and disposed of during the year at the Council's two refuse tips at Burghfield and Beenham.

The Burghfield tip which has been in use since 1965 was closed in November and all refuse is now disposed of at the new tip at Beenham. This tip is approximately 18 acres in area and has an estimated life of at least six years.

## Employees.

- 1 Foreman/Tip man.
- 4 Drivers.
- 11 Loaders.

## Equipment.

- 2 40/50 cu. yd. Bedford Eagle Crushload.
- 1 28 cu. yd. Dennis Paxit.
- 1 24 cu. yd. Dennis Paxit (Reserve).
- 1 24 cu. yd. Karrier.
- 1 Drott Crawler Tractor.
- 1 6 ton Bedford Tipper Truck.      }      Tip Control.

## DERELICT VEHICLES

Collection and disposal of derelict vehicles deposited within the district is carried out by a private contractor.

222 vehicles were disposed of during 1967.

## SEPTIC TANK EMPTYING SERVICE

The septic tank/cesspool emptying service continued, in general, to operate satisfactorily during the year, although, as in 1966, shortage of labour for this type of work again led to delays in the emptying of tanks. This situation gave rise to certain problems, particularly in those cases where full or overflowing drainage units of necessity needed to be emptied quickly.

Arrangements were made with the private contractors carrying out the emptyings to put an additional vehicle into service in the Council's area, and the situation has now improved.

During the year 710 tanks were emptied which involved a total of 1,030 loads.

## HOUSING

### Number of dwellings built:—

A.	by Local Authority ...	...	...	...	...	...	...	97
B.	by private enterprise	...	...	...	...	...	...	374

### Inspection of dwellings during year:—

A.	Total number of dwellings inspected for housing defects	...	220
B.	Number of inspections for this purpose	...	270

### Remedy of defects during year:—

Number of dwellings rendered fit in consequence of informal action	32
Number of dwellings in which defects were remedied by informal action	24
Number of dwellings rendered fit by statutory action	2
Number of dwellings in respect of which Demolition or Closing Orders were made	6
Number of dwellings in respect of which Undertakings were made	1
Number of dwellings demolished in pursuance of Demolition Orders	1
Number of dwellings included in Clearance Orders made by the Local Authority	NIL
Number of dwellings included in Clearance Orders confirmed by the Minister	NIL
Number of dwellings demolished in pursuance of Clearance Orders	NIL



## IMPROVEMENT GRANTS

The following grants were authorised during the year:—

Type of Grant	Owner/Occupied Premises			Tenanted Premises	Total
Standard	...	...	11	2	13
Discretionary	...	...	14	19	33
Totals	...	...	25	21	46

## OFFICES, SHOPS AND RAILWAY PREMISES ACT, 1963

The following is a summary of the Annual Report made to the Minister of Labour.

Class of Premises					No. of Premises registered during year	Total No. of premises registered at end of year	No. of premises receiving a gen. inspect. during year	Number of persons employed
Offices	...	...	...	...	5	53	15	365
Retail Shops	...	...	...	...	20	86	58	317
Wholesale Departments, and Warehouses	...	...	...	...	—	2	1	41
Catering Establishments open to the Public and Canteens	...	...	...	...	2	14	12	65
Fuel Storage Depots	...	...	...	...	—	3	1	11
TOTALS	...	...	...	...	27	158	87	799

Total number of males employed 312.

Total number of females employed 487.

Total number of visits of all kinds to registered premises — 159.

During the year under review, 159 visits were made to 87 different registered premises within the district. Of the total of 158 premises registered at the end of the year, 138 premises have now received a general inspection. It is anticipated that those premises not yet inspected will be visited during the early part of 1968.

On inspection it was found that a number of premises did not comply with all the requirements of the Act and the contraventions are summarised below:—

Insufficient First Aid Equipment	...	...	...	25
No hot water	...	...	...	6
Lack of thermometer	...	...	...	12
Insufficient lighting	...	...	...	2
Insufficient heating	...	...	...	1
Lack of ventilation to sanitary accommodation	...	...	...	4
Inadequate guarding of machinery	...	...	...	2
Unsatisfactory floors, passages and stairs	...	...	...	7
Inadequate cleanliness	...	...	...	2

The occupiers of the premises were notified of the contraventions either verbally or by letter and were requested to have them attended to. In the majority of cases these matters were dealt with immediately and it is expected that full compliance with the Act will be achieved during 1968.

One accident was reported during the year involving the cleaning of a bacon slicing machine. A visit was made to the premises concerned and advice given to the management.

**ANIMAL BOARDING ESTABLISHMENTS**

During the year 4 Licences were issued under the above Act in respect of boarding kennels within the District.

Each premises was inspected once and conditions were found to be satisfactory.

The kennels also met with the approval of the district R.S.P.C.A. Inspector.

**DISEASES OF ANIMALS (WASTE FOODS) ORDER**

Number of persons licenced ... .. 4

Number of inspections of plant and equipment ... 12

Alterations were carried out to one premises during the year and new swillboiling plant and equipment installed.

Further improvements were carried out in respect of another premises.

**PETROLEUM INSTALLATIONS**

Number of premises licenced during 1967 ... .. 69

Number of installations inspected ... .. 30

Number of visits made to these installations ... 51

In the case of 17 premises inspected, minor infringements of the Conditions of Licence were found. The Licensees were notified of the contraventions either verbally or by letter and asked to rectify them.

**FOOD AND DRUGS**

**A. MILK AND DAIRIES**

Routine samples of milk were taken for bacteriological examination as follows:—

		No. of samples	Tested and found satisfactory		Failed
			Methylene Blue	Phosphatase	Meth. Blue
Untreated	...	18	14	—	4
Pasteurised	...	5	5	5	—

Those samples of raw milk that failed to satisfy the methylene blue test were referred to the Ministry of Agriculture for investigation, the premises concerned being a Dairy Farm. Subsequent samples taken from this source proved satisfactory.

**CREAM**

During the year 9 samples of cream were submitted for bacteriological examination, and of these, 5 failed to satisfy the 4 hour Methylene Blue Test.

As there is, however, no legal standard for the bacteriological quality of cream, the Methylene Blue Test has no legal significance, so far as cream is concerned, but can only give a general indication of the bacterial activity of the sample.

Though no formal action could be taken, in all cases where laboratory tests indicated that cream was not of satisfactory bacteriological quality, the matter was taken up informally with the producer concerned, in conjunction with the Ministry of Agriculture.

## REGISTRATION UNDER THE MILK AND DAIRIES REGULATIONS

During the year, 5 persons were registered as distributors of milk under the above Regulations.

The total number of distributors in the district at the end of the year was 33.

### B. FOOD PREMISES

Food premises in the district are as follows:—

Cafes and Restaurants ... ..	18
Licensed Premises and Hotels ... ..	38
Works Canteens ... ..	12
Clubs ... ..	6
School Kitchens and Hostels ... ..	15
Butchers ... ..	13
Bakers and Confectioners ... ..	2
Bakehouses ... ..	5
Fishmongers ... ..	2
Grocers ... ..	66
Greengrocers ... ..	7
Confectioners ... ..	16
Milk Retailers ... ..	9
Others ... ..	3
Total ... ..	212

During the year 201 visits were made to 117 of the above premises and in general the standard of hygiene was good. The occupiers of 61 premises were requested either verbally or by letter to carry out various works in connection with the Food Hygiene Regulations. No formal action was found necessary.

### C. REGISTRATION UNDER SECTION 16 FOOD AND DRUGS ACT 1955.

Number of premises registered during the year for:—

Storage and sale of Ice-Cream ... ..	7
--------------------------------------	---

The total number of premises registered at the end of the year was as follows:—

A. Storage and sale of Ice-Cream ... ..	74
B. Manufacture or preparation of sausages or preserved food ... ..	28

### D. VOLUNTARY SURRENDER OF FOODS UNFIT FOR HUMAN CONSUMPTION

The following food was voluntarily surrendered by food traders and condemnation certificates issued:—

339 lb. Fresh Meat.

7 lb. Bacon.

26 pints of Milk.

The contents of three frozen food cabinets following breakdown of the units.

### E. POULTRY INSPECTION

Number of poultry processing premises within the district	1
Number of visits to these premises	6
Total number of birds processed during year	approx. 104,000
Types of birds processed:	
Hens	95%
Roasting Chicken	5%
Percentage of birds rejected as unfit for human consumption	2%
Weight of birds rejected as unfit for human consumption	Approx. 8,300 lbs.



The poultry processing premises in the district is a small well-equipped station whose owner has been in the poultry trade for many years. The owner carries out his own system of inspection in accordance with Circular 22/61, and contacting the Local Authority in the case of 'suspect' birds. The bulk of the carcasses rejected were for oedema, emaciation or parasitic conditions. Some birds are slaughtered on contract and returned to their owners for disposal but the greater part of the output is sent to wholesale meat markets or retailers premises. A very small proportion is sold from the owners mobile shop on a small retail round of regular customers.

## CLEAN AIR ACT

### New Installations.

A number of notifications of installations of new furnaces were received during the year. Each was examined and advice given where necessary. Alterations to the chimney height were recommended in the case of one of the installations, to ensure adequate dispersal of flue gases.

Two applications were made for prior approval of installations. Approval was given in both cases subject to an increase in the proposed chimney heights and also, in respect of one of the plants, to the use of a lighter grade of fuel oil having a lower sulphur content.

### Complaints and Observations.

Complaints were received of smoke nuisance from an incinerator burning commercial waste, and following observations of the installation over a period, approaches to the owner on an informal basis having proved fruitless, an abatement notice was served.

As a result of discussions with the owners legal representatives, the appliance has now ceased to be used.

A case of fume emission nuisance from an oil fired boiler was remedied, without recourse to formal action, following discussions with the owner of the plant.

A number of complaints were received concerning smoke from bonfires and visits were made and advice given in such cases.

## RODENT CONTROL

Number of complaints received	...	...	...	115
Number of different domestic premises visited	...	...	...	3,009
Total number of inspections made	...	...	...	3,738
Total number of treatments to domestic premises	...	...	...	222
Number of different business premises visited	...	...	...	358
Total number of inspections made	...	...	...	1,017
Total number of treatments to business premises	...	...	...	211
Number of different Local Authority premises visited	...	...	...	40
Total number of inspections made	...	...	...	153
Total number of treatments to Local Authority premises	...	...	...	39
Number of different agricultural premises visited	...	...	...	122
Total number of inspections made	...	...	...	656
Total number of treatments to agricultural premises	...	...	...	233
Number of Contracts:				
A. Private dwellings	...	...	...	80
B. Business premises	...	...	...	84
C. Agricultural premises	...	...	...	52
Value of Contracts	...	...	£1,732	
Number of employees	...	...	...	3

During the year the Divisional Pests Officer of the Ministry of Agriculture carried out an inspection of sewers within the District and was satisfied with the absence of infestation shown by the test baiting carried out by the Council's Rodent Officer.

Because of this satisfactory situation, further inspections of the sewers by the Ministry are to be deferred until 1970.

## FACTORIES ACT, 1961

1.—INSPECTIONS for purposes of provisions as to health (including inspections made by Public Health Inspectors).

Premises (1)	Number on Register (2)	Inspections (3)	Number of Written Notices (4)	Occupiers Prosecuted (5)
1. Factories in which Section 1, 2, 3, 4 and 6 are to be enforced by Local Authorities ... ..	2	2	Nil	Nil
2. Factories not included in (i) in which Section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority ... ..	79	44	5	Nil
3. Other premises in which Section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority (excluding out-workers' premises) ... ..	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil
<b>TOTAL ... ..</b>	<b>81</b>	<b>46</b>	<b>5</b>	<b>Nil</b>

2.—Cases in which DEFECTS were found.

Particulars (1)	Found (2)	Remedied (3)	Number of cases in which defects were found Notified To H.M. Inspector (4)	By H.M. Inspector (5)	Number of cases in which prosecutions were instituted (6)
Want of cleanliness (S.1) —	—	—	—	—	—
Overcrowding (S.2) ... ..	—	—	—	—	—
Unreasonable temperature (S.3) ... ..	—	—	—	—	—
Inadequate ventilation (S.4) —	—	—	—	—	—
Ineffective drainage of floors (S.6) ... ..	—	—	—	—	—
Sanitary Conveniences (S.7):					
(a) Insufficient ... ..	—	—	—	—	—
(b) unsuitable or defective	5	2	—	1	—
(c) not separate for sexes	—	—	—	—	—
Other offences against the Act (not including offences relating to Out-work) ... ..	—	—	—	—	—
<b>TOTAL ... ..</b>	<b>5</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>—</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>—</b>

# HUNGERFORD RURAL DISTRICT

## Report of Chief Public Health Inspector

### WATER SUPPLIES

In general, the whole district now has a main water supply whether public or private, and bacteriological examination of samples has shown that the water is of a good standard before any treatment is carried out.

Although the samples taken during the year showed a good standard of purity, it is essential to carry out regular routine sampling of the supplies, particularly those on private estates. In one case it was found that the sample was unsatisfactory and when an investigation was carried out, the source was found to be completely blameless and contamination had taken place in one of the storage resevoirs. After cleansing, the resevoir provided a good supply. This would tend to show that proper care and attention must be given to the storage tanks, pipes and fittings to ensure that a good supply of water is provided for the householder.

Samples		Satisfactory	Unsatisfactory
Samples taken from Public Supplies	... ..	2	—
Samples taken from Private Supplies	... ..	4	9

### Swimming Pool

The Public Swimming Pool at Hungerford ran very satisfactorily, but care and attention must be continually given to the treatment of the bath water and that the foot baths and changing rooms kept and used in a hygienic manner. Again it cannot be stressed too much that the public have a considerable responsibility in the use of the pools, particularly foot baths, before entering and when leaving the pool.

### SEWERAGE

#### Hungerford Scheme

This scheme is now in its final stages of completion and it is hoped that in the future, the Hungerford town area will be free of any complaints, which in the past, were attributed to overloaded sewers.

#### Upper Lambourn and Inkpen

The Council have given instructions for the preparation of sewerage schemes in both of these areas. It will, of course, be some considerable time before any approved schemes can be put into operation and the public must depend on the existing arrangements, already in operation for some years, for the clearance of septic tank systems.

### SEPTIC TANK SCHEME

This scheme continued during 1967, but it is felt that comparatively few ratepayers are taking advantage of the scheme, although it has been advertised. The scheme entitles the ratepayers to a reduced charge plus a grant of £1 once during the financial year. In cases where the property can be connected to the main sewer, no grant is given, but the ratepayer is allowed to take advantage of the competitive price.

It should be mentioned here that if all existing septic tank systems were carefully inspected, including effluent soakage area, it is doubtful if more than 50% of the systems would be considered satisfactory.



This doubt is expressed in respect of the majority of those parts of the district which have no main sewer available. Although, without doubt, in isolated areas the ground will absorb the effluent and cause no nuisance.

However, the instructions of the Council in the matter of the proposed schemes in Upper Lambourn and Inkpen should give considerable hope in the areas.

The table below shows work carried out and subsidies paid from 1st January to 31st December, 1967.

Parish	Dwellings for which service was requested			
	Dwellings on which subsidy was paid	Subsidy £	Dwellings requiring second service	Dwellings on which no subsidy can be paid
Coombe and West Woodhay ...	9	9	—	—
East Garston ... ..	2	2	—	—
East and West Shefford (incl. Shefford Woodlands) ... ..	2	2	—	—
Hungerford ... ..	11	11	2	—
Inkpen ... ..	30	30	3	1
Kintbury ... ..	3	3	—	2
Lambourn (incl. Eastbury, Woodland St. Mary, Upper Lambourn and Lambourn Woodlands) ... ..	9	9	5	—
<b>TOTAL</b> ...	<b>66</b>	<b>66</b>	<b>10</b>	<b>3</b>

## HOUSING

### Number of dwellings built:

(a) by local authority ... ..	13
(b) by private enterprise ... ..	51

### Remedy of defects during year:

1. Number of dwellings rendered fit in consequence of informal action ... ..	29
2. Number of dwellings in respect of which Demolition Orders were made ... ..	8
3. Number of dwellings in respect of which Undertakings were made ... ..	Nil
4. Number of dwellings in respect of which Closing Orders were made ... ..	3
5. Number of dwellings demolished following formal or informal action ... ..	2
6. Number of dwelling-houses included in Clearance Orders made by the Local Authority ... ..	Nil
7. Number of dwellings included in Clearance Orders confirmed by the Minister ... ..	Nil
8. Number of dwellings demolished in pursuance of Clearance Orders ... ..	Nil

### Inspection of Council Houses

Due to the staffing situation of the Department during the year, routine inspections of council houses was taken over by the Surveyor's Department, therefore allowing time to devote to other aspects of Public Health work. The maintenance of the council houses is the responsibility of the Surveyor's Department so it was considered natural to transfer these duties.

## IMPROVEMENT GRANTS

The number of applications for Improvement Grants still further decreased during the year, although the reason does not appear to be very apparent. It may be that the dwellings which could readily be improved at a fairly low cost have already been improved. Also, that some owners may be awaiting an increase in the value of the grant available, as the cost of the provision of the five standard amenities has increased considerably since these grants were introduced. However, there are undoubtedly many dwellings which could be improved and action is already proposed for proceeding with discussions in this matter.

The following grants were authorised during the year:—

	Owner/Occupied Premises	Tenanted Premises	Total
Standard ...	4	0	4
Discretionary ...	0	2	2
Improvement Grants which were paid during the year:—			
Standard ...	6	0	6
Discretionary ...	3	4	7

## CARAVANS

The past year once again has shown no particular need for a public caravan site in this district. There have been very few applications or enquiries with regard to the stationing of individual caravans, only when the applicant is using a caravan as temporary accommodation during the construction of the permanent dwelling.

The private site at Lambourn on which work had been commenced, now appears to be in doubt, the owners appear to have changed their views and may not proceed with their proposals.

## FOOD AND DRUGS

### Milk and Dairies

Routine sampling of milk for bacteriological examination was carried out and is set out below:—

	No. of Samples	—Tested and found satisfactory—			Unsatis- factory
		Methylene Blue Test	Phospha- tase Test	Turbidity Test	
T.T. Past. (C.I.)	10	9	10	N/A	1
T.T. Past.	3	2	3	N/A	1
Pasteurised	14	14	14	N/A	—
Sterilised	3	N/A	N/A	3	—
Raw T.T. (C.I.)	5	4	N/A	N/A	1
T.T. Past. Hom.	2	2	1	N/A	1

### Sale of Food

#### Number of Food Premises in the district:—

Cafe's and Restaurants	...	...	...	...	2
Licensed Premises and Hotels	...	...	...	...	31
Hostels	...	...	...	...	1
Works Canteens	...	...	...	...	2
School Kitchens	...	...	...	...	5
Butchers	...	...	...	...	7
Fish Friers and Mongers	...	...	...	...	5
Grocers	...	...	...	...	25
Greengrocers	...	...	...	...	4
Bakehouses	...	...	...	...	2
Confectioners	...	...	...	...	12
Milk Retailers	...	...	...	...	7
Bakers and Confectioners	...	...	...	...	6
Clubs	...	...	...	...	4
Others	...	...	...	...	9



## Unfit Food

No unfit food was surrendered during the year.

## Ice-Cream

Only one application for registration was received and granted during 1967, this bringing the total of registered premises to thirty-six.

No. of Samples	Provisional Grade	I	II	III	IV
42		33	5	2	2

## REFUSE COLLECTION AND DISPOSAL

### Collection

The Council placed an order for the purchase of a second Bedford Eagle Crushload, one of 50 cu. yds. capacity not of 35 cu. yds. as their present machine. It was felt that the extra capacity was essential in view of the increase in the bulk of refuse and distance between disposal sites. It is intended to retain the old 18 yds. Karrier Dual-Tip vehicle for use as a relief and for collection of general rubbish, scrap metal and furniture.

The new type compression machines are somewhat restricted as to the type and size of refuse which can be collected, but of course they are invaluable in the collection of **normal** household refuse which can be crushed to comparatively small bulk.

During the year, the general public have come to the view that a larger variety of waste materials should now be collected during the routine collections and it has been found that the quantity of refuse is ever increasing and not proportionately to the increase in number of new dwellings occupied.

### Disposal

As in previous years every effort is continually being made to obtain new suitable sites for the disposal of refuse. The Council were offered two sites one in the Lambourn Parish and one in the Kintbury Parish, although near to Hungerford. At the time of writing the one in Kintbury has received complete approval but the application in respect of the other site, has been withdrawn in favour of a much better site which, if approved, will be of much greater value in all ways.

It must be mentioned here that the Council have always followed the policy of collecting articles not normally considered to be household refuse, i.e. bicycles, household furniture, in their normal scheme of collection and so to a large degree, carry out some of the recommendations of the Report of the Ministry of Housing and Local Government on Refuse Storage and Collection. Also, builders and other business concerns have been able to deposit rubbish on the tips, subject to certain controls.

The Council have been of the opinion that they should follow this policy to prevent the countryside being littered by unwanted scrap metal, furniture, etc., and they have been proved right in fact, by the recommendations of the Report.

### Derelict Vehicles

The Council have made arrangements for a contractor to collect derelict vehicles direct from the site, subject of course, to the relevant conditions of the Civic Amenities Act, so that in the majority of cases these vehicles are not taken to the refuse tip or compound.

The Public still have the opportunity of taking their unwanted vehicles to the Council's refuse tip and these are then disposed of together with other scrap which is of very little value.

## LITTER

I am not aware of any serious problem in any part of this District as regards the deposit of litter. The Council have always favourably con-

sidered requests from Parish Council's and other organisations requesting the siting of new litter bins on additional sites.

However, there must be a limit to the number of litter bins erected, and the point where the general public must be made to realize that litter should not just be left to fall to the ground anywhere, anytime.

## RODENT CONTROL

The table below is a copy of the annual return sent to the Ministry of Agriculture, Fisheries and Food.

Properties other than sewers	TYPE OF PROPERTY	
	Non-Agricultural	Agricultural
1. Number of properties in district	3902	367
2. (a) Total number of properties (including nearby premises) inspected following notification	165	5
(b) Number infested by (i) Rats	153	5
(ii) Mice	12	—
3. (a) Total number of properties inspected for rats and/or mice for reasons other than notification ... ..	28	108
(b) Number infested by (i) Rats	26	107
(ii) Mice	2	1
4. No sewers were infested by rats during the year.		

## ANIMAL BOARDING ESTABLISHMENTS ACT

As in 1966, only two licences were issued under the above Act, both being in respect of cats. Visits made to these premises showed that the boarded cats were kept in a satisfactory condition.

## PETROLEUM

During the later part of the year, when an additional member of staff was available, detailed inspections were made of a number of licenced premises, but it was not possible to visit all and it is hoped to complete these early in 1968.

Total number of premises licenced at end of year	70
No. of visits made to licenced premises ... ..	35
(including detailed inspections)	

## OFFICES, SHOPS AND RAILWAY PREMISES ACT 1963

The details given below reveal that in our opinion the premises in general conform to the requirements of the Act, and that deficiencies are in the main, the lack of provision of a thermometer.

### Registrations and General Inspections

Class of Premises	No. of premises registered during the year	Total No. of registered premises at end of year	No. of registered premises receiving a general inspection during the year
Offices ... ..	2	16	16
Retail Shops ... ..	1	28	28
Wholesale Shops and Warehouses ... ..	—	NIL	NIL
Catering ... ..	—	2	2
Fuel ... ..	—	1	1
<b>TOTAL</b> ... ..	<b>3</b>	<b>47</b>	<b>47</b>

Total number of males employed	84
Total number of females employed	117

It was only the later part of the year the Department was sufficiently staffed, and it is since that time that the inspections have been carried out. Only 47 premises are registered, but these were all given a general inspection.

Summary of defects found on inspection				
Lack of First-aid equipment	...	...	...	5
No Thermometer	...	...	...	11
Repairs required to sanitary accommodation	...	...	...	1
Insufficient lighting	...	...	...	7
Unsatisfactory floors, passages and stairs	...	...	...	1
No Hot Water	...	...	...	3

In all but 14 cases, Abstracts of the Act were not displayed.

### FACTORIES AND WORKPLACES

1. Inspections for purposes of provisions as to health (including inspections made by Public Health Inspectors).

Premises (1)	Number on Register (2)	Inspections (3)	Number of Written Notices (4)	Occupiers Prosecuted (5)
1. Factories in which Sections 1, 2, 3, 4 and 6 are to be enforced by Local Authorities	4	5	—	—
2. Factories not included in (i) in which Section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority	42	25	—	—
3. Other premises in which Section 7 is enforced by Local Authority (excluding out-workers' premises)	—	—	—	—
TOTAL	46	30	—	—

### 2. CASES IN WHICH DEFECTS WERE FOUND

Particulars (1)	Found (2)	Number of cases in which defects were found			Number of cases in which prosecutions were instituted (6)
		Remedied (3)	To H.M. Inspector (4)	Notified By H.M. Inspector (5)	
Want of cleanliness (S.1)	—	—	—	—	—
Overcrowding (S.2)	—	—	—	—	—
Unreasonable temperature (S.3)	—	—	—	—	—
Inadequate ventilation (S.4)	—	—	—	—	—
Ineffective drainage of floors (S.6)	—	—	—	—	—
Sanitary Conveniences (S.7):					
(a) Insufficient	—	—	—	—	—
(b) unsuitable or defective	—	—	—	—	—
(c) not separate for sexes	—	—	—	—	—
Other offences against the Acts (not including offences relating to Outwork)	—	—	—	—	—
TOTAL	—	—	—	—	—



# NEWBURY RURAL DISTRICT

## Report of Chief Public Health Inspector

### Water Supplies

The following table shows the position in the various parishes.

Parish	Population (Oct. '67)	Number of Houses	Houses with mains water
Boxford ... ..	529	166	19
Brimpton and Wasing ... ..	599	181	9
Chieveley ... ..	1,951	520	29
Cold Ash ... ..	1,951	525	3
Enborne ... ..	565	161	4
Greenham ... ..	928	249	4
Hamstead Marshall ... ..	228	73	14
Leckhampstead ... ..	391	129	—
Midgham ... ..	381	110	11
Shaw ... ..	2,025	624	9
Speen ... ..	1,921	518	58
Thatcham ... ..	9,632	2,732	50
Welford ... ..	654	204	24
Winterbourne ... ..	187	71	25
Woolhampton ... ..	788	202	1
	22,730	6,465	260

Of the 260 houses without mains water 141 rely on a well supply and the others are supplied by deep boreholes or private mains. During the year five samples of well water were taken for bacteriological examination. Only one was found to be seriously polluted and a temporary supply was laid on. The house has now been vacated and will remain so until an alternative satisfactory water supply is provided.

### Food Supplies

The following table shows the number of food shops in the area in addition to which there are forty three hotels and public houses.

Grocers ... ..	41
Bakers and Confectioners (including bakeries) ...	11
Butchers ... ..	11
Greengrocers ... ..	5
Sugar Confectioners ... ..	8
Fishmongers ... ..	1
Fried Fish Shop ... ..	1

Seven butchers are registered for the manufacture of sausages and 62 premises are licenced for the sale of ice-cream. After almost ten years of slaughtering the slaughterhouses at Thatcham ceased to operate in March, during the three months of operation 6,224 pigs, 233 sheep and 29 calves were slaughtered all of which were inspected.



## Housing

### Number of dwellings built:

(a) By Local Authority	...	...	...	...	...	...	135
(b) By private persons	...	...	...	...	...	...	78

### Inspection of dwellings during year:

1. (a) Total number of dwellings inspected for housing defects	501
(b) Number of inspections for this purpose	563
2. Number of dwellings found to be unfit for habitation and not repairable at reasonable cost	11
3. Number of dwellings found to be unfit but capable of repair at reasonable cost	36

### Remedy of defects during year:

4. Number of dwellings rendered fit in consequence of informal action	36
5. Number of dwellings rendered fit for statutory action	Nil
6. Number of dwellings in respect of which demolition orders were made	Nil
7. Number of dwellings demolished in pursuant of demolition orders	Nil
8. Number of dwellings included in Clearance Areas	Nil
9. Number of dwellings demolished in pursuant of Clearance Orders	Nil

### Grants for Improvement of Private Houses

Discretionary Grants	18
Standard Grants	18

The Ministry also approved an application for Discretionary Grants in respect of twenty four Council houses, and the work commenced in December.

During the year a survey was carried out to take stock of the condition of the older houses throughout the district. As a result, eleven more houses were placed in the unfit category making a total of 46 unfit dwellings which are occupied and cannot be considered as repairable at reasonable expense. Twenty five of these houses are occupied by elderly persons, and the remainder will be dealt with as opportunity arises for re-housing the tenants.

The unfit house is no longer a serious problem in the district and so attention has been directed towards the sub-standard house which though structurally is fairly satisfactory lacks amenities and in particular does not contain a bathroom. The survey revealed that out of 6,465 houses 431 were without bathrooms. This represents a percentage of about 6.5% of the houses and compares favourably with the national average of 19.9% for rural districts and 10.0% for the County of Berks. Following the survey a letter was sent to all owners of properties without bathrooms with a view to encourage the owners to take advantage of Improvements Grants to improve their properties. The Council also offered mortgages in suitable cases if the owners were short of capital to pay their own share of the cost of improvements. So far response has been disappointing.

### Caravans

The following table shows the number of licenced sites.

Site	No. Licenced
1	100
2	69
3	30
4	18

In addition there are 54 caravans on small sites containing less than six vans.

**Sewage Disposal**

The following new sewerage works were completed during the year:—

- (i) Weston Village Sewerage and Sewage Treatment Scheme.
- (ii) New Surface Water Sewer Elmhurst Road Area, Thatcham. In addition work was commenced on the Upper Woolhampton Sewerage Scheme and good progress was made until the end of the year.

The preparation of working drawings and contract documents for the Enborne Row/Andover Drove Sewerage and Sewage Treatment Scheme were invited in December.

Approval “in principle” was received from the Ministry of Housing and Local Government in respect of the Chieveley/Hermitage Sewerage and Sewage Treatment Scheme and work commenced on the detailed working drawings.

A scheme for the Leckhampstead Sewerage and Sewage Treatment Scheme was submitted to the Ministry in May and a local enquiry was held by a Ministry Inspector in December.

Survey and design work for a new foul sewerage system for the Pyle Hill, Stroud Green, Hambridge Road area was commenced and almost completed by the end of the year.

**Refuse Collection and Disposal**

The method of refuse collection was not changed during the year, but the planning for a re-organisation was carried out during the latter half of the year.

In January, 1968, one vehicle will be engaged on paper bag back door collection in the least populated part of the district, thus  $\frac{2}{3}$  rds of the district will then enjoy a back door collection. It is hoped that by January 1969, refuse will be collected from the back doors of all properties.

Disposal of refuse continues to be carried out jointly with Newbury Borough at their refuse tip in Lower Way, Thatcham.

**Rodent Control**

Treatment is carried out under the joint scheme with Newbury Borough and Hungerford R.D.C. and the following table is a copy of the annual return sent to the Ministry of Agriculture Fisheries and Food.

**Prevention of Damage by Pests Act, 1949**

Properties other than sewers	TYPE OF PROPERTY	
	Non-Agricultural	Agricultural
1. Number of properties in district	6962	373
2. (a) Total number of properties (including nearby premises) inspected following notification	315	8
(b) Number infested by (i) Rats	296	7
(ii) Mice	19	1
3. (a) Total number of properties inspected for rats and/or mice for reasons other than notification ... ..	28	123
(b) Number infested by (i) Rats	26	123
(ii) Mice	2	—
Sewers		
4. Sewers infested by rats during the year —	None.	



